

Serology Schemes



These schemes are suited for clinical diagnostic laboratories that undertake tests for microbial antigen or antibody. The schemes cover a wide variety of serological tests for viruses such as HIV and Hepatitis B, bacteria such as syphilis, and parasites such as toxoplasma. Some of the serological schemes, such as Blood borne viruses, are designed for laboratories for blood donor screening whilst others assist with diagnostic testing such as the Acute Hepatitis screen that covers detection of IgM antibodies to HAV,

CMV and EBV. Schemes consist of either single marker or multiple markers, some including the use of confirmatory tests. General information on scoring: specimens are characterised using a range of assays and are scored when pre-distribution results concur. Participating laboratories are then scored on their ability to obtain the consensus pre-distribution result. Specifics or exceptions for individual schemes are indicated in the Scoring column in the table below.

Scheme	Examinations	Sample format	No. of distributions per year	No. of samples per distribution	Scoring
Anti-HBs detection	Determining levels of anti-HBs antibody	Liquid human serum	3	6	Qualitative detection at greater or less than 10 mIU/mL
Blood borne viruses	Hepatitis B surface antigen, Hepatitis C antibody, Human Immunodeficiency virus antibody	Liquid human serum	12	3	Positive or negative for the relevant marker
Diagnostic serology: acute hepatitis	Detection of IgM to HAV, CMV and EBV	Liquid human serum	2	3	Positive or negative for the relevant IgM marker with EBV infection scored on the interpretation of the results for the combination of tests performed by the laboratory
Diagnostic serology: exanthem	Rubella IgM, Parvovirus B19 IgM, anti-streptolysin O and anti-DNase B antibodies	Liquid human serum	2	3	Positive or negative for the relevant IgM marker with acute streptococcal antibodies scored on combined result reported for ASO and/or anti-DNase B
Hepatitis B serology	Hepatitis B surface antigen Hepatitis B core antibody Hepatitis B e antigen Hepatitis B e antibody	Liquid human serum	3	6	Positive or negative for the relevant marker
Hepatitis C serology	Hepatitis C antibody (reporting of screening and confirmatory tests)	Liquid human serum	3	6	Anti-HCV positive or negative
HIV Point of care	HIV antibody/antigen screening with point of care testing devices	Liquid human serum	4	2	Positive or negative for the relevant marker
HIV serology	HIV antigen/antibody covering a wide range of test methods and antigen sources	Liquid human serum	3	6	HIV-1 or 2 positive or negative
Immunity screen	Hepatitis A IgG (or total Ab), CMV IgG, VZV IgG	Liquid human serum	2	6	Positive or negative for the relevant marker
Measles IgG serology	Measles IgG antibody	Liquid human serum	2	4	Measles IgG positive or negative
Parasite serology	Detection of antibodies to Strongyloides, Hydatid, Amoeba, Toxocara, <i>T. cruzi</i> , Shistosoma	Liquid human serum	4	6	Presence or absence of antibodies to the parasite
Rubella IgG serology	Determining levels of Rubella IgG	Liquid human serum	2	6	Qualitative detection at greater or less than 10 IU/mL
Syphilis serology	Reagin, <i>Treponema pallidum</i> agglutination tests, FTA- Abs, Immunoassay total Ab	Liquid human serum	2	6	Positive or negative for the relevant marker. Reagin not scored if negative for Reagin but syphilis serology positive.
Toxoplasma IgG serology	Detection of IgG antibodies to Toxoplasma	Liquid human serum	3	6	Presence or absence of toxoplasma antibodies
Toxoplasma IgM serology	Detection of IgM antibodies to Toxoplasma	Liquid human serum	2	4	Presence or absence of toxoplasma IgM antibodies